

SPECIAL OFFER.—The Progressive Farmer Every Week Till January, 1905, for 50 Cents!

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The Progressive Farmer.

CLARENCE H. POE, - - Editor and Manager.
B. W. KILGORE, }
C. W. BURKETT, } - - Agricultural Editors

A LITTLE LETTER TO THE SAMPLE COPY READER.

My Dear Sir:—If this number of The Progressive Farmer has come to you marked "Sample Copy," it is because we are sending copies this week to a considerable number of progressive North Carolina farmers not now on our subscription list, and you are one of these. We mailed you one other copy some time ago and you doubtless know something of our paper—that it is a North Carolina farm paper, especially adapted to North Carolina climate, crops, soils and conditions, and therefore a paper that no progressive North Carolina farmer can afford to be without.

All of the men on The Progressive Farmer staff were raised on the farm, have had practical experience in farm work, and most of the staff are running North Carolina farms now. Quite probably you have seen our Prof. B. W. Kilgore at some Farmers' Institute. He has managed the State test and experimental farms for years, and nobody in the South knows more about soils and fertilizers than he. And our Dr. C. W. Burkett, Agriculturist of the North Carolina Experiment Station,—well, it's worth a year in an agricultural college just to go over Dr. Burkett's A. & M. College farm in summer and see the improved methods of cultivation, rotation, ditching, seed selection, fertilizing, etc., etc., that bring about the big crops he gets every year.

But these are only a few features. Scores of the most progressive and successful farmers and stockmen in this and adjoining States write regularly for our columns, while our literary, household and news features make The Progressive Farmer a paper that you and your family simply can't afford to be without.

And this sample copy is sent you just because we believe that when you learn of our remarkable subscription offer, you will no longer try to do without our paper. This is the offer—and it is the most liberal The Progressive Farmer management has ever made:

In clubs of three or more, The Progressive Farmer will be sent to new subscribers from now till January 1, 1905—nearly nine months—for only 50 cents. And when any man tries to get a club of three but fails, the paper will be sent to one or two names at the same rate. This offer is good till May 10, 1904.

Nor is this all. Fifty cents for the rest of the year is attractive enough—but we add to that our standing offer to refund your money if you are not satisfied. And all we ask is that you ask two of your neighbors to share this 50-cent offer with you; if you fail to get them, send on your own half dollar, and The Progressive Farmer will be a regular visitor to your home from now till January 1, 1905. Hoping that we shall hear from you promptly, I am,

CLARENCE H. POE,
Editor and Manager.

DR. FREEMAN'S TALKS.

VI.—Beautifying One's Surroundings.

Editors Progressive Farmer:

Some days ago I was called to see an old widow lady and to get to her house I traveled through the woods over a blind path for some distance and then tied my horse and walked along a little winding foot path for quite a distance before I came to the little house down in the woods.

When I entered the house there sat an old lady trembling with pain and age. She had lived here all alone for years. Everything looked neat and clean in this little house. I asked her if she did not feel very lonely there by herself.

Her answer came quick and cheerful: "No, there is some one passing and the children of my nearest neighbor comes sometimes."

When I left that home my heart was lighter than when I entered it. You see there is a bright side to every life. She loved and enjoyed her own environments. She had fixed things in her own way and enjoyed them, and she also had things as neat as she could, that her friends might feel comfortable when they went to her home. I see in the life of this lady so much to cheer one. She loved her own environments. She made the best of them for her own comfort and that of her friends. Do we all do as well? Do we cultivate and improve our own environments, that our families and friends may get all the pleasure there is to be derived from them? When you do things about the home, do you have an eye to your own happiness and the delight of your friends? If you do not, you will be sure to do them wrong.

Have you done anything to make your home bright and cheerful? Now is the time to begin. Out there in front of your house, how does it look? Is it covered with green grass now and the shrubbery and rose bushes all covered with life and beauty? If there is no grass, the wind is blowing the yard away, and if you have any trees the roots are becoming bare and the tree will soon be gone, not only so, but your sons and daughters will go, and are now tired of the place, and are longing to get away to some more genial place.

It is too late now to have grass, but you can have a few flowers in the yard this spring and summer, and fix for the grass this fall. The best thing for you to do now is to plow up the yard and make it very fine, and then sow it in peas in May. Then in September or October sow it in lawn grass, or best, blue grass. If your yard is shady the grass will do better than if there was no shade. Do this as it should be, and you will be pleased. No one on the place will have a chill while the peas are growing, and they make a very pretty yard.

When you do this everybody will think more of you, and you will have a respect for yourself and friends that you never had before. I do wish every farmer in all this land would begin now to beautify his home, and make it a place of gladness for his family.

H. F. FREEMAN.

Wilson Co., N. C.

He is a fool who cannot be angry; but he is a wise man who will not.—Seneca.

Farm Notes from Eastern Carolina.

Editors Progressive Farmer:

Since my last communication Harry Farmer has passed away. This is a sad loss to the farmers of this State, and perhaps to the South.

In my last I tried to urge the farmers to diversify and not depend on cotton alone, as many were wont to do. Well, I have tried to practice what I preach. I planted five acres in May peas and fifteen acres in Irish potatoes. These are fairly promising now; will report results later.

Shall be sure to plant plenty of corn, cow and stock peas to have an abundance of feed; already have an abundance of salad, kale, rape, radishes, lettuce, etc., with cabbage and tomatoes coming on. Have planted quite a little patch of water-melons, one of canteloupes and squash, etc. Strawberries in full bloom now. There promises to a fair crop of peaches; these we have sprayed. Rather too early to figure on apples yet. Pear trees are full of fruit; set out in early spring one hundred more peach trees of Sneed, Alexander and Crawford's Early. Thus you see I try to live on the farm and out of the farm. I have no special crops, but have a variety of vegetables and fruits; an abundance of poultry and eggs, milk two fine Jersey cows which furnishes an abundance of butter and rich milk. Shad, and in fact all fish, are abundant. I am one mile from town here. I can get steak at 12 cents per pounds. I usually sell the butchers some dressed hogs or a beef, and get them in turn to let me have roasts and steak. This can be done in almost any locality and will greatly aid in good farm living.

Now about cotton. When the manure for fifteen acres of Irish potatoes had been made, it left me with no manure for the cotton, so I bought a carload of Western cattle, fed them twelve tons of cottonseed meal and forty-five tons of hulls. By keeping the quarters well strawed we will have one thousand loads of manure, or enough for twenty acres of cotton. With what we get from the team stock, cattle and two hundred hogs, we think we can manure thirty-five acres. This, with a liberal supply of acid phosphate and kainit, say one thousand pounds per acre, we think should give fifty bales of cotton. So I shall try to get on thirty-five acres what I used to get on seventy-five acres.

The winter has been very cold and the spring is late. Our fall oats are a long way behind other years. Clover is small; crimson clover just beginning to head. Still there is nothing in sight except scarcity of labor and the unwillingness of hands to work, that would prevent (with favorable conditions from now on) a fair crop.

J. H. PARKER.

Perquimans Co., N. C.

The farmer who is farming for a living, a bare existence, instead of as a business, the farmer who is living on the traditions of the past and neither studying nor adopting modern methods or improvements, this farmer will scratch a poor man's head until he mends his ways and catches and keeps step with agricultural advancement.—Dr. Henry Wallace.